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### PSYX 298.01: Service Learning Syllabus

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# **Psychology 298/398 Service Learning Syllabus Spring 2017**

## **Instructor Information**

Faculty Supervisor: Nicole McCray, Ph.D.

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## **About service learning**

Service learning is a method of teaching and learning in which students, faculty, and community partners work together to enhance student learning by applying academic knowledge in a community-based setting. Student work addresses the needs of the community, as identified through collaboration with community or tribal partners, while meeting instructional objectives through faculty-structured service work and critical reflection meant to prepare students to be civically responsible members of the community. A Service Learning course counts as an Honors course in fulfillment of the Davidson Honors College graduation requirements, but a student may count no more than two S-L courses toward these requirements

## **About the course**

In addition to gaining practical experience in the community, students participating in service learning are expected to reflect on their experiences and share those experiences with others. This sharing/reflection component of the course will take place primarily on the course Moodle page. Students will use Moodle to submit bi-weekly journals reflecting on their service learning experience and post questions/comments for discussion with their peers and faculty supervisor. Students will also complete an end of the semester evaluation and fact sheet about the organization they worked with to aid future students in finding an appropriate internship experience.

## **Required hours**

45 hours is equivalent to one PSYX or HFD credit:

45 hours = 1 credit

90 hours = 2 credits

135 hours = 3 credits

**\*\*Time spent on journals/class discussions counts toward your final hours.**

If you are having difficulty meeting your hours, please contact your faculty supervisor as soon as possible.

## Conduct

See UM student conduct code for detailed information. Please be polite and respectful to all involved in the course. Carefully consider the content and tone of your response when posting comments for discussion. **When talking about your internship, please be sure to keep all information about individual clients strictly confidential.**

## Journaling

All students are required to keep a reflective journal of their internship experiences. ***The time that you spend journaling will also count toward your internship hours.*** As with the discussions, please remember to keep client information strictly confidential! A handout will be available to give you guidance on reflective journaling.

## Discussions

In lieu of face-to-face discussions, students will have the opportunity to post questions/comments on Moodle to share internship experiences and get support/feedback from peers and the faculty supervisor. Students are required to post questions/share experiences, and respond to discussions across the semester. Students not contributing to discussion a total of 5 times will not receive full credit for the discussion component of their grade. (Students are welcome to post more than 5 times).

## End of Semester Assignment/Evaluation:

At the end of the semester, all students will be expected to complete a write up/evaluation of the organization he/she interned with. Students will provide general information about the organization (contact information, what they do, what opportunities they offer interns, etc.) as well as an evaluation of your experience with the organization (this will be confidential).

## Grading:

Your grade will be assigned by your faculty supervisor and is determined from performance on the following:

1. Turning in your journal on time and the quality and content of your **journal**. The journal should include a record of your hours engaged in the service learning activity at the agency; a description of the events and activities that you're engaged in; and your personal reflections about the significance and meaning of the events and activities. You will be evaluated on the quality of your writing, the quality and quantity of your work and accomplishments, and the quality of your insights as you reflect on your work. **Journals are due Feb. 17, Mar. 10, Mar. 31, and Apr. 28. Students turning in a journal past 11pm on the date it is due will lose 2 points per day late. Incomplete journals will be docked points as well.**
2. The **site supervisor's evaluation** of your work. This includes assessment of dependability, attitude, work relationships, self-management, and learning of required skills and knowledge. Site supervisors will be contacted mid-way through the semester.

**Your faculty supervisor must have an evaluation from your site supervisor in order for you to get a grade.**

3. **Attendance and participation in discussion via Moodle.** You are expected to post/respond to 5 questions/comments for discussion over the course of the semester.
4. Your end-of-the-semester evaluation of your internship.

**Total Points: 280**

Journals: 4 journals at 20 points each = 80 points

Supervisor Feedback = 100 points

Discussions: 5 posts at 10 points each = 50 points

End of semester write up: 50 points

**Grading:**

**A = 252-280 points**

**B = 224-251**

**C = 196-223**

**D = 168-195**

**F = 0-167**